

# December 27"

## MIGHTY GOOD HERRING NEWS

**Fish Have Struck Middle  
Arm in Abundance.**

**ALL VESSELS DOING WELL.**

**Weather Still Remains Mild  
with No Frost Yet.**

The British schooner Loyal arrived at this port this morning from Bay of Islands, N. F., with a fare of salt herring, consigned to the Gorton Pew Fisheries Co.

A St. John's, N. F., despatch says that because of the mild weather, the prospect of frozen herring at Bay of Islands, N. F., is unfavorable and that it is feared half the fleet will not get cargoes. The despatch also states that the United States tug Potomac will leave today for home, as friction from the fisheries dispute is no longer feared. A number of the local fishermen have given up for the season and gone home, according to the despatch, which also says that about 400 men are now employed and that a number of vessels have been ordered home empty.

No word has been received here since Christmas from the fleet at Bay of Islands. It is known that but few herring have been frozen on account of the mild weather, but nothing has been heard of vessels starting for home empty. It was understood that the Potomac was to stay at Bay of Islands until the close of the season.

Later—Since the above was written, a special despatch to the Boston Fish Bureau from its regular correspondent at Birchy Cove, Bay of Islands, N. F., puts another view on the situation and gives it a very roseate hue. The despatch was sent at 9.27 o'clock this forenoon and says:

"Latest confirmed news reports herring struck in abundance in Middle Arm. Good prospects. All the vessels doing well."

"Since the receipt of this dispatch, some of the firms here have had word from their skippers that herring have struck in again, thus doubly confirming the good news. The local despatches also state that there is no frost and the weather is mild."

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**URGENT NEED** and distribution of food fishes by the bureau of fisheries in the past fiscal year reached a magnitude never before attained, the number of fish and lobsters hatched and distributed aggregating 1,931,834,660. White fish, chinook, salmon, blueback salmon, black-spotted trout, brook trout, lake trout, pike, yellow and white perch, cod, flatfish and lobster were cultivated and planted in large numbers. A noteworthy feature of the work was the introduction of government salmon culture in Alaska. The scientific work conducted in the interests of the commercial fisheries has covered the usual wide range, much being in continuation of work already in progress.

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Special investigations were made in fresh waters of Maine and Alaska, of the oyster grounds of Louisiana, the fisheries resources of the Alaskan coast and other parts of the North Pacific Ocean; large collection of fisheries from the coast of tropical America and the Philippine Islands have been studied.

Commissioner of Fishiers, Bowers says the failure of the states to make adequate provision for protecting the food fish supply within their limits, more particularly the migratory species, appears more urgently to demand action on the part of congress.

He thinks the government should either assume jurisdiction over migratory fishes that cannot be regarded as the property of any one state, or should suspend fish-cultural operations in waters where its efforts are completely counteracted by the indifference of the states.

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## DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

### Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Cavalier, Quero Bank, 40,000 lbs. salt cod, 25,000 lbs. fresh cod, 12,000 lbs. halibut.

Br. sch. Loyal, Bay of Islands, N. F., 1288 bbls. salt herring.

### Boston.

Sch. Speculator, 35,000 haddock, 35,000 cod, 15,000 cusk.

Sch. Sadie M. Nunan, 10,000 haddock, 2500 cod, 4900 hake.

Sch. Fanny Belle Atwood, 5000 haddock, 2000 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Albert Geiger, 1500 haddock, 7500 cod, 500 hake.

Sch. Hobo, 2000 cod.

Sch. Olive F. Hutchins, 3000 haddock, 6000 cod, 700 hake.

Sch. Motor, 7000 cod.

Sch. Rose Standish, 3500 cod.

Sch. Olga, 35,000 haddock, 10,000 cod, 2000 hake, 12,000 cusk.

Sch. Flirt, 30,000 haddock, 10,000 cod.

Sch. Lafayette, 11,000 pollock.

Haddock, \$3.50 to \$5 per cwt.; large cod, \$5; market cod, \$3 to \$5; hake, \$2 to \$4; cusk, \$1 to \$2; pollock, \$3.

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## SHOWED FALLING OFF.

**Maine's Big Catch Past Year Below the Standard.**

**Annual Report Touches on Many Subjects Including Dogfish.**

A. R. Nickerson, commissioner of sea and shore fisheries of Maine, has just submitted his biennial report to the governor. It is a very lengthy document and deals in detail with every branch of the fishing industry.

The report shows that the total production of all branches of fisheries in the state for 1905 amounted to 211,657,874 pounds, valued at \$4,154,115. For 1906, the total yield was 179,888,290 pounds, valued at \$4,048,923.

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These figures do not include the pack of sardines, which the bureau is not allowed to report.

The total investment in the fisheries in 1903, the commissioner says, was \$3,361,698. In 1906 it showed a decrease, the figures being \$2,839,839. In 1905 the number of persons engaged in the fisheries are allied industries was 15,103; in 1906 the persons employed had increased to 15,954.

Commissioner Nickerson says that the seed lobster law is working admirably. The launch Sea Gull has been in constant use in the collection and delivery of the egg-bearing lobsters. From November 30, 1904, to November 30, 1905, 22,930 lobsters were purchased from fishermen and dealers. During the four seasons the Sea Gull has been employed in collecting egg lobsters for the state she has sailed 16,000 miles, two-thirds the distance around the world.

In 1905-06 the ground fishery shows a total yield of 93,796,102 pounds, valued at \$1,974,128. Boothbay Harbor has entirely dropped out of the Grand bank fishery, and its fleet of vessels removed from the state. Bucksport is the only port left in Maine where a fleet of Grand bankers is owned, and this fleet is very much reduced during the past season.

Commissioner Nickerson reports that a great many fish are destroyed in the vicinity of Eastport by the use of dynamite. With the consent of Gov. Cobb, the Sea Gull was sent to Eastport, and for five weeks patrolled the waters on the American side, while a Canadian cruiser did similar duty on the English side and thus the law was enforced and the use of dynamite stopped.

Under the head of new legislation Commissioner Nickerson recommends an absolute close time for two years for a certain part of the clam flats. He recommends too, the amendment of the lobster law in the matter of measurement. He suggests that the measurement of the body shell of the fish be taken, and not the whole of the body and tail, as at present required.

He recommends that more money be appropriated to promote the interests of Maine fisheries. The general appropriation should be increased, he thinks, from \$15,000 to \$25,000 a year, and for the protection of lobsters with eggs attached from \$5000 to \$8000.

In regard to the dogfish evil, the commissioner says: If the proprietors of the new extermination scheme, which proposes to buy up these fish and put to useful purposes the skin, flesh, livers, etc., should ask the legislature for an appropriation to assist the initial establishment, I would most certainly favor such expenditure of a moderate sum under proper restrictions that will assist us in getting rid of one of the greatest menaces to our fishery interests.

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**Should Have Been 14,000,000 Pounds.**

The slipping out of one figure often makes sad havoc with a story, and such was the case yesterday, when in the article regarding the doings of the salt bank codfishing fleet it read in a portion of the edition that the catch of the fleet in 1904 was 4,550,000 pounds and in 1905 the figure was given as 4,002,000 pounds. It is needless to say, perhaps, that the figure 1 should have gone before each, making the 1904 figures 14,550,000 pounds and the 1905 figures 14,002,000 pounds.



## ROOT IS CAREFUL.

### State Secretary Posted on Various Phases of Fisheries Question.

Secretary of State Root is a great man for "system" in the work of his department and is making great progress in plan to have things as they should be so that facts, figures, etc., will be instantly accessible. A few days ago he was talking with the Washington correspondent of a Boston paper and in the course of quite a long interview as to the benefits derived by the country, the state department and himself by having things accessible and in order, said, regarding a matter in which all Gloucester is vitally interested:

"We are dealing today, with matters that have been going on during the entire history of the government.

Take, for instance, the Newfoundland fisheries question. We are involved now in dealing with questions which have been discussed in various phases and in a multitude of forms since away back to the time of the treaty of 1783, then 1818, then 1854, then 1871, then the discussion of the Hay-Bond treaty and the Halifax award.

"There is hardly a year to be found for 120 years back in which there has not been something on that subject. Now I have got to be able to get hold of all that has been said; otherwise I might make a most humiliating mistake in answering arguments by the British foreign office if I overlooked something that has been done and said in the state department during the last century."

## ALL WORKING HARD

### But It Looked Blue for Cargoes Before Herring Struck.

#### Potomac Bound Home but Mr. Alexander Will Stay with Fleet.

A letter received this morning from Bay of Islands, N. F., and written a few days before the herring struck in again in the Middle Arm, says the Potomac came down to Birchy Cove from Middle Arm with letters and despatches from the fleet Monday morning and returned at once to resume her work among the fleet. Since a week ago Friday she was engaged in breaking up the ice and freeing the vessels. On Saturday she finished breaking the ice in the Goose and Penguin Arms, these being the places where the herring were, and then took up the work of towing the vessels out of it. Quite a number shifted from Penguin to Goose Arm and others were to shift next day.

The weather when the letter was written was very mild and rain had fallen steadily for two days, melting all the snow and shaking things up generally. It is to be hoped that the Arms will be free of ice for the next two weeks, otherwise there will be little or no opportunity for vessels to load. The season has been a hard one and the present outlook is not at all encouraging. Everybody is working hard to secure a load of herring and if energy will assist in obtaining herring where few or none are to be found, all the vessels are likely to be loaded before the season ends. Because the outlook is dark today is no sign that it will continue. The Potomac will leave in a few days for home, but Mr. Alexander will remain with the fleet, probably until the end of the season.

When the letter was written herring were scarce, but as the note indicated, it was no sign because it was a dark outlook then that it would continue so. Herring have struck in and vessels are doing well. The Potomac is probably on the way home by this time and it is expected that she will stop here on the way to New York.

It is understood that the tug Potomac left Bay of Islands, N. F., for New York on Thursday.

## MODUS VIVENDI UNFAIR.

### Daily Mail Calls It Unjust to Newfoundland.

A London despatch of Friday says: "Apropos of the departure from Washington of Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, British ambassador to the United States, the Daily Mail describes the modus vivendi recently arranged as harsh and unjust to Newfoundland, conceding everything to the United States with reciprocal concessions. It says that if Mr. Bryce succeeds in bringing about a fairer solution of this matter the whole empire will be indebted to him. The Daily Mail feels satisfied that Mr. Bryce will not be likely to sacrifice Canadian interests.

"Sir Henry Mortimer Durand's departure is referred to editorially this morning with expressions of congratulations upon his work and he is credited with having effected a great improvement in the relations between the two countries. It is reported that he will be offered a peerage.

"The question of the appointment of a Canadian to assist Mr. Bryce at Washington also is discussed. The belief seems to be held that rather than appoint such an official permanently it will be decided, when important Canadian matters arise, to appoint a Canadian representative particularly for the matter under consideration, who shall take part in the councils."

## DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

### Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Sylvia M. Nunan, shore.  
Sch. John M. Keen, shore.  
Sch. Speculator, via Boston.  
Sch. Valentinnia, shore.  
Sch. Catherine D. Enos, shore.  
Sch. Reliance, shore.  
Sch. Julietta, shore.  
Sch. Rita A. Viator, shore.  
Sch. Mary A. Gleason, shore.  
Sloop Morning Star, shore.

#### Boston.

Sch. Carrie F. Roberts, 2000 haddock, 500 hake.  
Str. Ida, 1500 cod.  
Sloop Favorite, 2500 cod.  
Sch. Mertis H. Perry, 3200 cod.  
Sch. Theresa and Alice, 6500 haddock, 650 cod, 2000 hake.  
Sch. Galatea, 8000 haddock, 1000 cod.  
Sch. Minerva, 500 haddock, 1500 cod.  
Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, 7000 haddock, 8000 cod, 4000 hake.  
Sch. Sabine, 1000 cod.  
Haddock, \$4.75 per cwt.; large cod, \$4 to \$5; market cod, \$3; hake, \$2 to \$4.

### Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Lena and Maud of this port, bound home from Bay of Islands, N. F., with a full cargo of salt herring, was at Halifax, N. S., Thursday to land a sick man.

## ICE OFF FISHING GROUNDS.

St. Johns, Dec. 29.—The fishing grounds are again free from ice, and 40 American vessels are making especial efforts to secure cargoes of herring before the flocks again blockade the seaboard. The weather here is warm, the thermometer registering 62 degrees.

## Should Have Been 14,000,000 Pounds.

The slipping out of one figure often makes sad havoc with a story, and such was the case yesterday, when in the article regarding the doings of the salt bank codfishing fleet it read in a portion of the edition that the catch of the fleet in 1904 was 4,550,000 pounds and in 1905 the figure was given as 4,002,000 pounds. It is needless to say, perhaps, that the figure 1 should have gone before each, making the 1904 figures 14,550,000 pounds and the 1905 figures 14,002,000 pounds.

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#### Boston.

Sch. Catherine, 3000 haddock, 500 cod, 500 hake.  
Sch. Joseph H. Cromwell, 4000 haddock, 1500 hake.  
Sch. Mattakesett, 9000 haddock, 1000 cod, 2000 hake.  
Sch. Lillian, 5000 cod.  
Sch. Mary Edith, 5500 haddock, 200 cod.  
Sch. Emerald.  
Haddock, \$3.50 to \$4; large cod, \$5; market cod, \$3; hake, \$2.50 to \$3.

## ANOTHER DISASTER.

### Sch. Ralph F. Hodgdon Total Loss at Bay of Islands.

#### Bound Home with Only 200 Barrels of Salt Herring.

A special despatch to the Daily Times this forenoon from Bay of Islands, N. F., states that sch. Ralph F. Hodgdon of Eastport, formerly of this port, went ashore at Birchy Cove in that bay last night and will be a total loss.

The craft is the oldest American schooner in the Newfoundland herring fleet. At the time of the accident she was bound for home with only 200 barrels of salt herring, having lost about all her nets during storms and in the ice.